

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-05 IO-10 TAR-01 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01

SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 SS-15

NSC-05 L-02 PA-01 PRS-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 /090 W

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FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8792

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS PRIORITY 620

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PASS STR FOR AMBASSADOR DENT IMMEDIATE

PASS AGRICULTURE FOR BUTZ AND YEUTTER

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EAGR EEC

SUBJECT: AGRICULTURE IN MTN'S

1. IN THE COURSE OF NINE HOURS OF DISCUSSIONS ON APRIL 30, EC COMMISSION OFFICIALS LED BY RABOT AND JIJZEN AGREED TO CERTAIN MODIFICATIONS IN A DRAFT SUMMATION FOR USE BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE AGRICULTURE GROUP. THE TEXT, WHICH IS GIVEN BELOW, NOW REPRESENTS, ACCORDING TO THE COMMISSION OFFICIALS, THE FURTHEST THEY ARE ABLE TO GO IN MEETING US NEEDS REGARDING A PROPER STATEMENT OF THE WAY IN WHICH AGRICULTURE WILL BE HANDLED IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. THEY INTEND TO TRY TO SELL THIS AD REFERENDUM TEXT TO THEIR MEMBER STATES, AND SEEM FAIRLY CONFIDENT THEY CAN DO SO.

2. WHILE THE PRESENT TEXT CONTAINS LANGUAGE WHICH IS
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CONSIDERABLEY CLOSER TO US DESIRES THAN PREVIOUS DRAFTS,

IT MUST BE NOTED THAT RABOT (AND PIZZUTI) MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE EC CONSIDERS THAT THE COMMODITY SUB-GROUPS HAVE EXCLUSIVE JURISDICTION OVER ALL SIGNIFICANT ISSUES RELATING TO TRADE IN THE PRODUCTS CONCERNED. THEY OFFERED LANGUAGE WHICH WAS AMBIGUOUS ON THIS POINT IN ORDER, IN THEIR WORDS, TO AVOID A PROCEDURAL CONFRONTATION AT THIS TIME.

3. THE COMMISSION OFFICIALS AGREED THAT THE EC WOULD PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN THE LONDON GRAINS MEETING OF MAY 28 IF (A) THE PRESENT TEXT COULD BE AGREED TO AT THE MAY 8 AGRICULTURE GROUP MEETING, AND (B) A MEETING OF THE GENEVA GRAINS SUB-GROUP WAS HELD PRIOR TO MAY 28, I.E., ANY LONDON MEETING MUST BE PROCEEDED BY A MEETING OF THE MTN GRAINS GROUP.

4. THE FOLLOWING IS THE DRAFT TEXT OF THE PROPOSED CHAIRMAN'S SUMMING UP WHICH THE EC COMMISSION IS WILLING TO "SELL" TO ITS MEMBER STATES:

BEGIN TEXT:

1. THE GROUP MET FROM 24 TO 27 MARCH AND FROM 15 TO APRIL 1975, AND TOOK THE FOLLOWING DECISIONS. THE GROUP AGREED THAT THE GROUP SHOULD BE CHAIRED BY THE SECRETARIAT. IT INVITED THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF UNCTAD OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE TO ATTEND THIS SESSION OF THE GROUP AS AN OBSERVER.

2. THE GROUP AGREED THAT SOME AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS WHICH REPRESENTED A LARGE SHARE IN WORLD TRADE AND WERE SIDELY TRADED MIGHT LEND THEMSELVES TO MULTILATERAL SOLUTIONS. WITH THIS IN VIEW IT AGREED TO ADDRESS ITSELF INITIALLY TO GRAINS, DAIRY PRODUCTS AND MEAT. IT WAS UNDERSTOOD THAT OTHER PRODUCTS MIGHT BE ADDED AT A LATER STAGE.

3. THE GROUP AGREED TO ESTABLISH NEGOTIATING SUB-GROUPS FOR THE FOLLOWING SECTORS DEALING WITH ALL THE ELEMENTS RELEVANT TO THE TRADE IN THESE PRODUCTS:
A. GRAINS. IT WAS UNDERSTOOD THAT GOVERNMENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH WERE ALSO PARTICIPATING IN THE WORK RECENTLY STARTED IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE INTERNATIONAL WHEAT COUNCIL WOULD CONTINUE ACTIVELY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO PURSUE THAT WORK ALSO. AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME, THE SUB-GROUP SHALL CONSIDER HOW BEST TO INTEGRATE INTO ITS WORK ANY RESULTS OF THE WORK AT PRESENT GOING ON IN THE INTERNATIONAL WHEAT COUNCIL.

B. DAIRY PRODUCTS.

C. MEAT (INCLUDING LIVE ANIMALS)

4. THE GROUP AGREED THAT THE ABOVE SUB-GROUPS WOULD

THEMSELVES ORGANIZE THEIR WORK.

5. THE GROUP AGREED THAT IT WOULD TREAT TARIFF AND NON-TARIFF MEASURES RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS. IT WAS NOTED THAT MATERS OF A GLOBAL NATURE INCLUDING TARIFF AND NON-TARIFF MEASURES AFFECTING AGRICULTURE WOULD BE TAKEN UP IN A NUMBER OF CONTEXTS WITHIN THE OVERALL FRAMEWORK OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS. IN SUCH CASES, THE GROUP AND THE SUB-GROUPS WILL CONCERN THEMSELVES WITH THE AGRICULTURAL ASPECTS OF THESE MATTERS AND WIL TREAT THEM IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE WORK OF THE TARIFFS AND NON-TARIFFS MEASURES GROUPS. IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT WHEN APPROPRIATE THE RESULTS OF THE WORK SHOULD BE COMMUNICATED TO OTHER GROUPS CONCERNED WITH A VIEW TO ARRIVING AT THE HARMONIOUS AND BALANCED DEVELOPMENT OF ALL THE ELEMENTS SUBJECT TO NEGOTIATION, IN FURTHERANCE OF PARAGRAPH 8 OF THE TOKYO DECLARATION.

5. B. THERE HAVE BEEN DISCUSSIONS OF WHETHER IT WAS NECESSARY TO CREATE A SUBGROUP ON SOME TARIFFS ON NON-TARIFF MEASURES AND THE GROUP HAS AGREED TO COME BACK LATER TO THIS QUESTION.

6. THE EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF BEARING IN MIND THROUGHOUT THE MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS, AND ESPECIALLY THE AGRICULTURAL NEGOTIATIONS, THE NEED TO GIVE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES SPECIAL AND MORE FAVOURABLE TREATMENT WHERE FEASIBLE AND APPROPRIATE.

7. THE GROUP AGREED THAT THE SUB-GROUPS BELOW SHOULD HOLD THEIR FIRST MEETING ON:

-SUB-GROUP ON GRAINS---JUNE?

-SUB-GROUP ON MEAT--- JUNE?

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-SUB-GROUP ON DAIRY PRODUCTS---JUNE?

END TEXT.

5. COMMENT: GIVEN RABOT'S CONTINUED ADHERENCE TO THE IDEA OF VIRTUALLY EXCLUSIVE JURISDICTION OF THE COMMODITY SUB-GROUPS, THE US DELEGATION SAID IT WAS VERY PESSIMISTIC AS TO THE ACCEPTABILITY OF THIS TEXT IN WASHINGTON. FURTHER MOVEMENT ON THE PART OF THE COMMUNITY WILL, IN THE VIEW OF THE US DELEGATION, REQUIRE INTERVENTION AT A HIGH LEVEL, TO MAKE EFFECTIVE THE DENT-SOAMES UNDERSTANDING OF APRIL 28. GREENWALD

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